

The American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe

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Another Pitch

By Walter E. Myer

YEARS ago, when Walter Johnson was at the height of his pitching career, I had the good fortune to see him in action fairly often. As I remember it, not once in all these games did I see him dispute an umpire's decision. If the umpire yelled "ball" when the offering looked very much like a strike, the crowd might hiss and boo, but "The Big Train" quietly wound up for another pitch.

He must have been disappointed and annoyed at times, but he kept resentment to himself. He probably figured that in the long run he would get his share of the breaks, and that, anyway a single decision didn't ordinarily amount to much in the course of a game and still less in the course of a season or a career.

Johnson looked at events, apparently, from the long-term point of view. If a ruling had no long-range importance he didn't make an issue of it. The thought may have run through his mind, "This point will not seem important tomorrow or next month, so why make a fuss about it now." He saw things in perspective. He was a poised individual.

Many ball players lack that quality of poise. Now and then, when a doubtful point is decided against them, they act as though their whole careers were at stake. On such occasions they fume and shout, shake their fists at the umpire, sometimes become so menacing that they are put out of the game.

Too many of us, I am afraid, act similarly in the face of everyday disappointments and irritations. We worry, and sometimes quarrel, about matters which may look big at the moment, but which are really so unimportant that they will soon fade entirely from our memories.

If a person is to have peace of mind and a fair share of happiness he must develop the art of poise. He must learn to size up his problems so as to know which ones are important and lasting

and which are trivial and temporary. If real trouble overtakes us, as it sometimes does in every life, we must do what we can to remove the causes. We must give it our serious attention.

But most of our worries, anxieties, and resentments are about problems which are small and temporary. Your quarrels or disappointments of last year—can you not laugh at them, or most of them, today? Your difficulties of today, what will they look like a year from now?

If you are inclined to raise a great hullabaloo every time you fail to have your way, remember Walter Johnson. If, figuratively speaking, you think you have thrown a strike and it is called a ball, just settle down on the mound and wind up for another pitch!

Many people wear themselves out and place a great emotional strain on themselves by constantly combatting imaginary wrongs and injustices. They would get much more out of life and contribute more if they used their energy for constructive achievements.



THIS CARTOONIST feels that public apathy is holding back our civil defense program, but many citizens say they haven't been told how to cooperate.

Civil Defense Lags

Funds and Leadership Have Been Inadequate to Promote Widespread Public Interest in This Vital Program

ONE of the main objects of the recent atom bomb test at Yucca Flat, Nevada, was to find out the effects of the explosion on typical American homes. Two houses, fully furnished, were placed at distances of 3,500 and 7,500 feet from the blast.

The home nearer the explosion collapsed. The first and second stories were dumped into the basement. The farther house was left standing, but doors were blown off their hinges, windows were smashed to splinters, and furniture was piled up. Automobiles within half a mile of the explosion were tossed around like toys.

The effects of the blast give a good idea of what would happen if an atomic bomb should be dropped by an enemy on an American city.

Thousands of persons would be killed instantly. Other thousands would be wounded and would need immediate care. Many more would be trapped or buried in wreckage. Buildings in the immediate area of the explosion would be blocked by rubble, and fires would start in many places soon after the explosion. Thousands of survivors would find themselves homeless, without food, clothing, shelter, or money.

Of course, we hope that an enemy never drops an atom bomb on the

United States. Yet we cannot doubt that the possibility exists.

We know that more than one atomic explosion has taken place in Russia. Leading scientists believe that the Soviet Union is manufacturing and stockpiling atomic bombs. We know, too, that Russia has heavy, long-range bombers capable of reaching U. S. targets. Our hopes for peace must never blind us to these facts.

If an atomic bomb should be dropped on an American city, could any steps be taken to save lives and property? Our top leaders say, "Yes." If we know what measures to take, it is asserted that casualties can be cut at least in half. Panic can be avoided, and countless lives will be saved.

Since early in 1951, federal, state, and local governments have been setting up a system of civil defense, intended to protect Americans in case of a war on the United States. The Federal Civil Defense Administration does much of the basic planning and helps in building shelters and supplying emergency equipment. But the federal government does not run civil defense. It is upon the state and local governments that the main responsibility for civil defense lies.

(Concluded on page 2)

Russian-Ruled Czechoslovakia

Communist Nation in Center of European Continent Has Had a Troubled Past

THE mystery surrounding the recent death of Czechoslovak President Klement Gottwald may never be entirely cleared. According to official reports from beyond the Iron Curtain, the communist leader suffered a fatal illness immediately after returning home from Moscow where he had attended Joseph Stalin's funeral.

Such reports may be true. Gottwald, though only 56 years old, had been in poor health for quite a long time. The strain of his trip to Moscow possibly was more than he could stand. Many observers, nevertheless, think it is very peculiar that Gottwald's sudden death occurred so shortly after that of Stalin. There is some suspicion that Russia's present rulers, uncertain of his loyalty to them, had him "eliminated."

Gottwald's passing, and the uncertainty over resulting changes within Czechoslovakia, have added to the speculation about what may happen in Russia's satellite empire now that Stalin is gone. Will Soviet leader Georgi Malenkov be able to keep a firm grip on the small eastern European countries that Moscow now dominates, or will some of them break away?

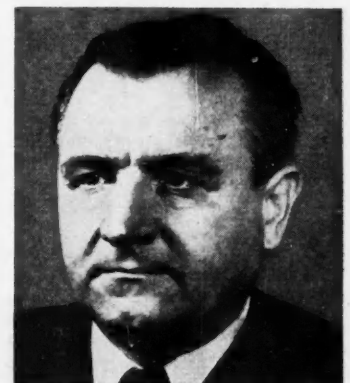
We await the answers to such questions as the new president, Antonin Zapotocky, takes over the job vacated by Gottwald. Meanwhile, let us briefly review Czechoslovakia's recent history. It is typical of other Soviet-controlled lands.

During the 35 years of Czechoslovakia's national history, her ups and downs have reflected the hopes and disappointments of the world as a whole. She was created in 1918, amid the optimism which most of mankind felt at the close of World War I. Until then she had been part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

Established under the leadership of (Concluded on page 6)



Walter E. Myer



KLEMENT GOTTWALD, the late Communist ruler of Czechoslovakia



VAL PETERSON is chief of the Federal Civil Defense Administration

Civil Defense

(Continued from page 1)

One of the reasons why the state and local governments play such major roles is that civil defense work is organized around regular, local, public services. For example, fire and police departments will play a big part in putting an area back on its feet again after an atomic attack.

However, an atomic attack is bound to cause such destruction that the regular public services will not be able to bear the full burden. Therefore, civil defense leaders are trying to get thousands of volunteer workers for the jobs that will have to be carried out in case of an attack.

Volunteer firemen will be needed to keep blazes from spreading after a bombing raid. We shall need thousands of special police to direct traffic and keep the roads from becoming hopelessly clogged at the fringes of a blast area. Rescue squads will have to help remove people from wrecked buildings. We shall need health workers to cooperate with doctors and nurses in taking care of the injured. Volunteers will be needed to guard critical areas against sabotage.

How is our civil defense program, now in its third year, progressing? In case of a sudden attack on our country, could we do a good job of saving lives and property?

There is a good deal of debate over how effective the present civil defense program is. While the picture is not entirely bright, there are some encouraging developments. Here are a few of them:

All states, territories, and major cities are developing civil defense organizations. During the fiscal year 1953, states and cities have made approximately 160 million dollars available for civil defense.

In 1952 the number of civil defense workers more than doubled. An estimated 4 million people are now serving in local and state civil defense work.

Almost all states have encouraged mutual aid agreements whereby civil defense workers in an untouched region would move rapidly to help out in a neighboring area where disaster had struck.

During 1952 some 200,000 specialists and instructors were graduated from 650 local schools in civil defense courses sponsored by cities and states. At Olney, Maryland, a school for advanced rescue instruction was opened. There buildings have been constructed in which wartime damage conditions are imitated. Rescue workers practice

removing victims from rubble and giving them first aid.

A warning system can now send an alert to 175 key points throughout the nation within two minutes.

Unfortunately there is another side to the civil defense picture. Here are some of the dark spots:

Only about 12 per cent of the total number of persons needed to provide first-aid and medical care in the event of an attack have been enrolled and assigned duties. Only 15 per cent of the volunteers required for rescue service have been enrolled.

Civil defense groups have succeeded in recruiting only about 30 per cent of the necessary number of people to scan the skies for enemy planes. Some 350,000 more volunteers are needed for the Ground Observer Corps.

A single atomic explosion over an American city would require at least 180 equipped first-aid stations, each manned by 200 trained workers. Yet some states have done woefully little in setting up aid stations and accumulating medical supplies.

Civil defense progress is not keeping up with the enemy's ability to launch devastating attacks on America. Recently Joseph and Stewart Alsop, the well-known columnists, reported that "a group of the most highly qualified American scientists have forecast that in two years the United States will lie virtually defenseless against a devastating Soviet air-atomic attack." While the Alsops were concerned primarily about the state of our military defense, their report has equally grave implications for civil defense.

Attitude of Congress

Civil defense has received less encouragement and support from Congress than any other activity connected with the national defense. For example, last year the President requested 575 million dollars for civil defense. Congress, while appropriating some 60 billion dollars for the buildup of military defenses, atomic energy expansion, and defense aid to foreign countries, cut the President's request for civil defense to 43 million dollars—or by 92 per cent.

When the whole civil defense picture is viewed together—the dark spots along with the bright—it means this: that—while we are making some prog-

ress—we are nowhere near prepared to bounce back from an enemy attack on this country. Why, after more than two years of civil defense effort, does this state of unreadiness exist?

The "don't care" attitude of the American people is one important reason. Apathy can be seen plainly in the lack of volunteers for various phases of civil defense. Congress' refusal to grant more funds to civil defense is traceable, too, to the indifference of the great majority of citizens, for our Congressmen are highly responsive to the wishes of the people they represent. The fact is that a great many Americans do not seem to be interested at all in the home defense plans which their state, local, and federal governments are promoting.

Behind this widespread apathy are a number of false beliefs held by many people. For example, some people say: "The enemy would not attack us on our home front."

Military men think that quite the opposite is true. An attack on the home front, they say, is the only kind of attack that, from the enemy's point of view, would make sense. Our enemies know that our factories and farms played a decisive role in our victory in World War II. To beat us, they know they must knock out our production. Therefore, in another conflict they would hit our home front with everything they could just as soon as possible. One of the big objects of a civil defense program is to keep production rolling and to prevent the enemy from defeating us.

Other Americans say: "If Soviet planes attempted an attack, our Air Force and our anti-aircraft defenses would stop them."

In air warfare, at least in its present state of development, it is not possible to stop completely an attacking force. The Germans had good defenses in World War II, but on the average we lost fewer than 10 out of every 100 planes we sent over Germany. General Hoyt Vandenberg, Chief of Staff of the U. S. Air Force, has said that at most we could knock down only 30 out of every 100 planes attacking the United States. The 7 out of 10 which would evade our defenses could subject the country to a destructive attack.

Some citizens excuse their indifference by this remark: "If an A-bomb attack should take place, we could take

care of the casualties without an organized system of civil defense."

Nothing is farther from the truth, contend those who have had experience with large-scale disasters. They say that recovery depends directly on how well organized a locality is to meet the trouble. *A country is not prepared for attack until every adult and every child knows something about the danger he may have to face, and knows precisely what he or she will do in an emergency.* This requires an organized civil defense such as London had in World War II when every adult and every child knew exactly what to do in an air raid.

The only conclusion which any thoughtful citizen can reach is that we cannot sit back and be indifferent to civil defense. For if A-bombs fall on the cities and towns in which we live, it is ourselves, our friends, and our families who will have to bear the brunt of the attack.

Facing Our Task

It is not a pleasant prospect, but we must not, ostrich-like, refuse to face it. Soldiers are trained to take care of themselves and keep on fighting. Every combat soldier knows there are certain things he can do to increase his chance of survival, while at the same time he carries out his job. On the home front we must likewise learn how to protect ourselves and to keep on working.

Young people, as well as adults, can help build a strong civil defense. First, find out what is being done about civil defense in your own community. Then offer your services if they can be used. Do not become discouraged if your services are not used immediately. Many civil defense groups are still in the process of organization.

Secondly, learn what to do for protection in case of a sudden attack. This vital information is being put forth in many schools. If it is not available in your school, you can get the necessary instructions at civil defense headquarters in your home city or state capital.

Despite every precaution, a soldier in combat may be killed. So may a civilian in an atomic attack. *But the more we know and the better trained we are, the better are our chances for survival.*



MANY CIVILIAN VOLUNTEERS will be needed in case of war. These people are plotting the courses of airplanes.



SENATOR Joseph McCarthy. His investigations have made a great many newspaper headlines.



SENATOR William Jenner. He is active in the search for Reds in government and elsewhere.



REPRESENTATIVE Harold Velde. He stirred up a tempest by mentioning investigation of the churches.

The Congressional Investigations

Are Anti-Subversive Probes Being Properly Conducted?

FEW subjects attract more attention in national news today than does the congressional hunt for communists and other subversives. U. S. congressional committees and subcommittees are looking into the schools, into federal administrative departments, and elsewhere.

Two groups—a House committee headed by Representative Harold Velde of Illinois, and a Senate subcommittee headed by Senator William Jenner of Indiana—are looking for communists in the schools. A group headed by Senator Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin has inquired into whether subversives are influencing the Voice of America. Some additional committees are active in related fields.

The work of these groups has caused a tremendous amount of discussion and debate. Many Americans declare that the investigations—as now conducted—threaten our freedom of speech and thought, and that they may eventually endanger even our freedom of worship. The investigators generally reply that loyal Americans have nothing to fear from the current probes.

In the following paragraphs we present statements, by prominent citizens, on both sides of the issue.

Elmer Davis, news commentator, severely criticizes the investigators. He is especially outspoken against Representative Velde and against Senators McCarthy and Jenner. He says: "Anyone who expects a fair investigation from any of these three chairmen is living in a dream world."

Mr. Davis feels that men and women are often accused of being subversive simply because they hold ideas which the investigators dislike, or because they have made honest mistakes of judgment. "A nation is in deadly danger," he asserts, "if the generation coming up is afraid to do anything for fear it might later turn out to be wrong—or, even worse, unpopular."

The news commentator feels that our schools must be given broad freedom to study and compare different viewpoints, and he is afraid that the present investigations will interfere with such liberty. "The right to think and question and investigate," he says, "is the difference between the free world and the world of totalitarianism."

Dr. James Bryant Conant, former president of Harvard and now U. S.

High Commissioner to Germany, has also spoken out on the subject of academic freedom.

"If there are members of the staff of any university who are *in fact engaged in subversive activities*," he said, "I hope the government will ferret them out and prosecute them. But, in so doing, I trust [the investigators] will not create an atmosphere in which professors would be afraid to speak freely on public issues. . . .

"As to the charge that some professors hold unpopular political opinions: the answer is, of course, that they do. It would be a sad day for the United States if the tradition of dissent were driven out of the universities.

"For it is the freedom to disagree, to quarrel with authority on intellectual matters, to think otherwise, that has made this nation what it is today."

Senator Joseph McCarthy makes the following statement about communism and the schools:

"There is no freedom of thought, no freedom of expression on the part of a communist teacher. His thinking is set forth for him and if he deviates one iota he is out of the party. So that's a completely false claim that you're interfering with freedom of thought, freedom of expression, when you get rid of communists.

"The person who is trying to get rid of them and get good honest Americans in your schools and colleges is the man who is trying to promote freedom of thought and expression in college."

Dr. Lewis Webster Jones, president of Rutgers University, recently had to deal with a difficult problem. Two of his professors had refused to answer Senate investigators' questions about their possible connections with the communist movement. Shortly afterward these professors were fired by the school's board of trustees. Dr. Jones defended the board's action:

"Universities . . . occupy a position of central importance in our free society. . . .

"Public investigation of the universities is legitimate. . . . It implies no invasion of academic independence."

James Carey, prominent labor union official, brings up a frequently mentioned point. He says: "Too many . . . congressmen and too many anti-liberal groups take this question of anti-com-

munist to use it for the purpose of perpetuating themselves in office or getting headlines."

Representative Harold Velde replies: "There has been no effort at all of any member of the [House Committee on Un-American Activities] . . . in my opinion . . . to get into this fight against communism for the purpose of making headlines or for political purposes.

"It is true that we all feel that we owe a duty to the American people to expose communism, and the only way that we can do that is through public information sources . . . so that the people of this country can know the real dangers of communism."

When recently asked about the danger that the reputations of innocent men and women may be damaged through congressional investigations, Representative Velde said: "It's a lot better to wrongly accuse one person of being a communist than to allow so many to get away."

Rev. C. Stanley Lowell, a minister in Washington, D. C., has taken an active part in the debate on congressional probes—as have numerous other churchmen. He recently said:

"How do we know McCarthy is loyal? . . . When you stop to think about it, he has done pretty well for the communists. He has everybody in the government scared to death. He has the State Department so jittery the people in it are afraid to do anything. The communists would like that.

"Now he and his fellow travelers are going to work on the school system in a way that may very well wreck it. The communists would like that.

"Next—mark my word—it will be the churches. They too will be investigated for Reds by these self-appointed arbiters of true Americanism. And when the churches are harried and driven and rendered ineffectual in their operations, the communists will certainly like that. . . .

"How do we know they [McCarthy, Velde, and others] are not working with the Kremlin behind the scenes to divide our people and destroy our free institutions?"

Representative Velde, on the following day, commented that his committee might eventually investigate various ministers "including some who seem to have devoted more time to politics than they have to the ministry."

Velde explained that the communists are "out to destroy all religious freedom in this country," and that his committee might eventually touch on the question of whether any subversive work is being done from within the churches.

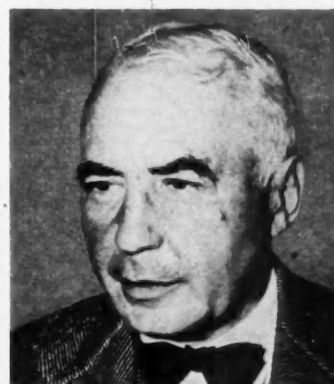
These remarks aroused considerable protest, including some from members of Velde's own committee. But one committee member, Representative Donald Jackson of California, contended that a large part of the opposition to Velde was being stirred up by communists and pro-communists.

Representative Velde, in view of the opposition aroused by his earlier comments, soon stated that he has no definite plans for probing into the religious field. However he added: "We are interested in investigating individual communists—whether they be found in labor, the clergy, education, or any other worlds."

The National Council of Churches issued a formal statement shortly after the question of investigating ministers was raised. This statement was to the effect that congressional investigations are useful and necessary, but that they should be carefully and conscientiously run. In part it said:

"Free ministers in free pulpits, preaching to free people . . . are a chief bulwark of American freedom. . . . This freedom must be maintained. . . . Certain methods, however, of congressional committees, . . . endanger the very freedom which we seek to preserve.

"Congress has the right and duty to make such investigations as may be necessary to secure the information upon which sound legislation may be based. Conspirators in any area of life who seek the violent overthrow of the government of the United States should be discovered, tried in American tribunals, and, where found guilty, punished.



ELMER DAVIS, radio commentator and writer, has criticisms to make of congressional investigations

"No witness at any investigation should be denied fair and dignified treatment. Having sworn to tell the truth . . . he should be permitted the right of an uninterrupted initial statement of reasonable length. . . .

"No committee should circulate on its letterheads, over the signature of its members or employees, unsupported charges against individuals or organizations which it has made no effort to investigate or substantiate.

"The proper and essential function of congressional investigation must be preserved." But, says the Council, we must guard against the improper handling of such probes.

These are among the views that have been put forth on this issue.

The Story of the Week

NOTICE

In accordance with its usual practice, *The American Observer* will not publish an issue on the Monday which coincides with the Easter holiday. Consequently, no paper will be published this year on April 6th.

The next issue will appear on April 13th and will be devoted largely to a series of articles on Latin America. April 14 is Pan American Day and our material will provide a basis of discussion for that occasion.

Japan's Elections

Uncertainty hangs like a heavy cloud over the outcome of Japan's elections, scheduled for next month. At stake are the seats of the Far Eastern land's leading branch of the Diet, or parliament. The elections will also decide who is to be premier, for the post of premier goes to the leader of the group that can command a Diet majority.

Just now, the outlook is that none of Japan's four or more major political parties will get enough support at the polls to put its leader at the helm. If that happens, then the premier and his cabinet must be chosen through the cooperation of two or more groups.

Japan's biggest political group, the Liberal Party, split into two opposing factions earlier this month. Some of the party members continue to support Premier Shigeru Yoshida, while others formed themselves into a new body—the Japan Liberal Party. The latter group is headed by Ichiro Hatoyama, who was Yoshida's most



PREMIER Shigeru Yoshida of Japan

outspoken rival for leadership of the old Liberal Party.

Among other differences between the two men, Hatoyama supports a stepped up Japanese defense program, while Yoshida advocates a "go slow" policy on armaments. Each of the two leaders hopes to become premier in the forthcoming elections.

Another top contender for the Japanese premiership is Mamoru Shigemitsu, leader of Japan's Progressive Party. Shigemitsu, who was an official of the Japanese government when Japan was our enemy during World War II, is an ardent supporter of strong military forces for his country. Though his Progressives are not too unfriendly toward the United States, Shigemitsu has sometimes criticized other Japanese leaders for following "pro-American" policies.



ANOTHER CONSULTATION. Congress seems still far from agreement on proposals for amending or rewriting the Taft-Hartley labor relations law.

Who Is Right?

From time to time, we hear alarming predictions that Uncle Sam is running out of natural resources. Is this true? Research chemist Charles Allen Thomas, writing in the *New York Times Magazine*, answers this question with an emphatic "No." He writes as follows:

"We will not run out of resources as long as we use all available natural wealth wisely and efficiently. What's more, there have been enough recent discoveries of oil and other items to suggest that our country still contains huge stores of hidden wealth. If we conserve what we have, we will not be caught short of basic raw materials in the foreseeable future."

"Too, our scientists have been making amazing progress in developing new sources of energy, and they are constantly finding new uses for the raw materials that are in plentiful supply. Plastics, for instance, are being used to turn out industrial products that were once made out of scarce metals. And atomic energy, which has already been experimentally harnessed to produce electricity, may soon replace coal and oil as a source of power to run the wheels of our factories."

Malenkov's Next Move?

What is Georgi Malenkov, Russia's new dictator, getting ready to do next? This question is being asked in capitals of many nations on our side of the Iron Curtain. Allied leaders are carefully going over every bit of information that leaks out of the Kremlin, looking for new clues as to Russia's intentions.

On the one hand, Malenkov has recently stepped up Russia's "lets-get-along-together-with-the-democracies" campaign of words. On the other hand, Soviet actions have become more warlike of late than they were before. Red planes shot down an American jet fighter plane and a British craft flying over free territories of West Germany earlier this month. Communist fighters also shot at U. S. craft in the north Pacific area.

Because of the Red attacks on our planes, and because the Soviets refuse to call off the communist troops that are fighting in Korea or cooperate for world peace in the United Nations, the Allies are taking Malenkov's "peace" pronouncements with a grain of salt. Nevertheless, democratic leaders have reminded the Soviets that the western nations are always ready to talk peace if Russia shows some willingness to back up her words with action. Time will tell what the Reds will do.

View on Corruption

"Moral and ethical standards among our government workers and congressmen have gone up, not down over the long run." That is the view of Illinois' Democratic Senator Paul Douglas. Actually, Senator Douglas contends, corruption among our public officials is not nearly as widespread today as it was in the last century.

In order to improve further the conduct of congressmen and government workers in general, the Illinois lawmaker has suggested these and other "don'ts" for all persons who are on the public payroll:

1. Don't accept costly gifts or entertainment from persons who may try to influence your decision as a servant of the people.
2. Don't use a public job to promote your own private interests.
3. Don't cash in on your influence as a former public official when you quit as an employee of Uncle Sam.

South Africa's Elections

On April 15, the Union of South Africa will go to the polls to elect new members of parliament. The balloting is a test of strength between Prime Minister Daniel Malan's Nationalists and the opposition Union Party. The Nationalist Party, many of whose members are of Dutch descent, favors breaking South Africa's ties with the Commonwealth of Nations. Unionists, who are pro-British, strongly oppose such a move.

The two parties also differ somewhat on the treatment of the land's non-white inhabitants. Some 2½ mil-

lion of South Africa's 12½ million people are of European descent. The rest are Negroes and Asiatics. The whites control the government, but their position is not a comfortable one.

Negroes and Asiatics feel deep resentment because they have very few citizenship rights, and only a small handful of the group can vote. In their efforts to win rights as citizens, these people sometimes use strikes and demonstrations as weapons.

Malan's Nationalists want to strengthen rules that limit the activities of South Africa's non-whites. Meanwhile, Unionists are in favor of giving certain political privileges to a small number of the land's colored people. Both sides claim, though, that a majority of Negroes in the country are not yet ready to take part in civic activities.

Because Negroes and Asiatics have become increasingly restless of late, South Africa's parliament recently granted special emergency powers to the Prime Minister. Under the new rule, Malan can jail demonstrators without a jury trial if he feels the country's peace is endangered. Though Nationalists and a number of Unionists alike backed the emergency measure, it has become a big issue between the parties in the current election campaigns.

Democracy vs. Tyranny

Democracy has won a slight edge over tyranny during the past 20 years, according to an *Associated Press* study. The AP survey states:

Nations with a total of about 700 million people have made some gains in the search for more political liberties since the 1930's. For instance, certain lands once controlled by Britain, such as India and Pakistan, are now free. Other countries where democratic gains have been made in recent years include Israel, the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, Indonesia, Malaya, South Korea, Japan, Ceylon, Burma, French Indochina, the Philippines, and West Germany.

The inhabitants of a few Latin American countries also made gains in the quest for more political rights. Mexico granted voting rights to its women citizens. Bolivia and Venezuela extended the franchise to certain people who were formerly without voting rights.

On the other side of the picture, about 645 million people have lost



ANY OTHER important funerals? Some Americans think that Dictator Malenkov of Russia may be directing a purge of Red leaders who served the late Joseph Stalin.



MAMIE—pardon, Mrs. Eisenhower—smiles happily as she meets the press. She gets along with newspaper folk quite as well as does the President.

either all or part of their political freedom since the 1930's. This number, according to the AP, includes communist China and all other countries brought under Soviet influence within the past 20 years, as well as Spain, Egypt, and South Africa. Argentina is listed as a question mark by this news-gathering agency.

Drivotrainer

In a Brooklyn, New York, high school, driver training teachers have a new way of checking on their students. It's done with a machine called the drivotrainer and motion pictures.

The trainer is a desk fitted with a steering wheel and other controls found in an automobile. While the students sit at their drivotrainers, the teacher shows movies of a car in motion. The car may be on the highway, threading its way through crowded street traffic, or trying to park.

With the movies are instructions telling the student what to do if he were driving the car. Each student then works the controls on his drivotrainer. If he makes a mistake, it will show up on a panel at the teacher's desk.

Later, the teacher goes with his students when they drive autos on the highway.

Foreign Visitors

More and more distinguished foreign visitors are dropping in at the White House these days. Leaders from several nations have recently come, or are on the way to the United States, to talk things over with President Dwight Eisenhower. Top officials from France and West Germany have been among these White House visitors.

French leaders, headed by Premier René Mayer, have just finished talks with our Chief Executive. Among other issues, they discussed ways of building up France's economy through increased U. S. trade with the French, France's defense problems, and the country's struggle against communism in Indochina. French Foreign Minister Georges Bidault and chief of Indochinese defenses Jean Letourneau

accompanied Premier Mayer on the trip to Washington, D. C.

Next week, West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer is scheduled to meet with President Eisenhower and other top U. S. leaders. After a three-day stay in the nation's capital, Adenauer plans to visit other American cities. He hopes to get the United States to open its doors to increased trade with West Germany. The German chief executive also wants to talk over defense problems in the face of the Red menace to his land's eastern borders.

World Glimpses

Russia's active sea armada is now second only to that of the United States, says Britain's naval chief James Thomas. According to Mr. Thomas, the Reds have more ships in service than Britain has. He points out that the Soviets are known to have more than 100 big destroyer vessels, over 350 modern submarines, and many other fighting ships.

Europe's foreign affairs leaders are scheduled to meet on May 12 to check

up on what progress, if any, their countries are making toward setting up a United States of Europe. Earlier this month, representatives of most free European nations agreed on a proposed constitution for a united continent. It is now up to the legislature of each country to take final action.

German and Egyptian engineers are mapping out plans for one of the biggest irrigation projects built in a long time. Plans call for a 4½-mile-long dam across the Nile River in the southern tip of Egypt. It is estimated that the area behind the proposed dam would contain twice as much water as our gigantic Hoover Dam reservoir holds.

Germany Acts

Many ticklish problems concerning West Germany and her role in Europe's defenses must be ironed out before the continent can put finishing touches on its security plans. But a big step forward was taken about 10 days ago when West Germany's lower house of parliament (Bundestag) voted "yes" on two important treaties.

For one thing, the Bundestag ratified a peace contract, proposed by the Allies about a year ago. The pact is not a full peace treaty for the former enemy nation, because such a settlement has thus far been blocked by Russian stalling. Nevertheless, the contract would give West Germany almost complete independence, and it would end Allied military occupation of the former enemy land.

The German legislators also voted in favor of the European Defense Community (EDC) plan. EDC would unite the armed forces of France, Belgium, Italy, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, and West Germany under a single command. The six-nation defense group would be closely tied with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. "All EDC members except West Germany are NATO partners.

Several additional hurdles must be overcome before the two agreements can take effect. West Germany's upper house of parliament, together with France and all other members of the proposed partnership, must ratify the contract before it goes into force.

SPORTS

THE appearance of a new face in the lineup of big league cities is stimulating unusual interest in the opening of the 1953 baseball season. The Boston team of the National League has been moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where it will be known as the Milwaukee Braves. Boston will no longer have a National League team, but will continue to be represented by the Red Sox in the American League.

The move is the first geographical change in the major league set-up in 50 years. It was made because the Braves have been losing money in Boston where they have had to compete with the Red Sox for the loyalty of the fans. The owners of the Braves feel that they will be able to do much better financially in the Wisconsin city. With a fine park and many baseball enthusiasts, Milwaukee seems to be in a good position to support a big league club.



IT'S ALWAYS hard to concentrate at this time of year.

Milwaukee fans are elated about the shift. They hope their team will be in the thick of the fight for the National League pennant. Since Milwaukee is less than 100 miles from Chicago, it is probable that a spirited rivalry will develop between the Milwaukee Braves and the Chicago Cubs.

Whether the Braves will be up with the leaders in their first year in Milwaukee remains to be seen. Last season in Boston, they finished in seventh place. Among the Braves' best players are Warren Spahn, one of the league's top pitchers, and Sid Gordon, a hard-hitting outfielder.

Probably the most promising player of the Braves is the young third baseman, Ed Mathews. In his first chance in the big leagues, Mathews last season hit 25 home runs, though he was only 20 years old. Many sportswriters predict a bright future for him.

The move of the Boston team to Milwaukee came two days after the American League had turned down a request to switch the St. Louis Browns to Baltimore. According to sportswriters, one reason for the adverse decision in the case of Baltimore is that it does not at this time have a ball park considered to be up to major league standards. On the other hand, Milwaukee has a new five-million-dollar park with a seating capacity of almost 36,000. Only New York and Chicago in the National League have parks with greater capacity.

THE LIGHTER SIDE

First Golfer: "This is absolutely terrible. I have never played so poorly before."

Second Golfer: "Oh, then you have played before?"

Mother (after reading a pathetic story): "Now Sonny, wouldn't you like to give your bunny to that poor little boy who hasn't any daddy?"

Sonny (clutching his rabbit): "Couldn't we give him daddy instead?"

Dentist: "Stop waving your arms and making faces, sir. Why, I haven't even touched your tooth!"

Patient: "I know you haven't, but you're standing on my corn."

Accused: "My counsel has not arrived, so I plead for adjournment."

Judge: "What do you think counsel could say in your favor, when you were caught in the act?"

Accused: "That is just what I am curious to know."

What possible chance would a dictator have in a country where spectators demand the life of a baseball umpire for making just one bad decision?

Note from teacher on Betty's report card: "Good worker, but talks too much." Note from father over signature on back of card: "Come up sometime and meet her mother."



MALLETY IN SATURDAY EVENING POST

Land of Czechs

(Concluded from page 1)

Thomas Masaryk and Eduard Benes, and with the encouragement of U. S. President Woodrow Wilson, Czechoslovakia set up a democratic government. Though small, she was a comparatively prosperous nation and a progressive one.

During the 1930's, when the German dictator Adolf Hitler started the aggressive policies that eventually plunged Europe into war, Czechoslovakia was one of his early victims. He demanded a fringe of her territory known as the "Sudeten region." At the famous Munich conference of September 1938, France and Britain agreed to stand aside and let him seize that area.

This victory merely whetted Hitler's appetite. Within a short time Nazi Germany had absorbed nearly all of Czechoslovakia, and Poland and Hungary had taken the rest. Soon Europe was engulfed in World War II.

At the close of this conflict, Czechoslovakia was liberated by Russian and American troops. Eduard Benes, who had been in exile, came back as president. From 1945 until 1948, he and his followers sought to operate a democratic government once again.

Partly Independent

Communist influence was strong in Czechoslovakia during the first few years after World War II, but the country was not under complete communist or Soviet domination. She was more fortunate than several of her neighbors that were taken over as soon as the war ended.

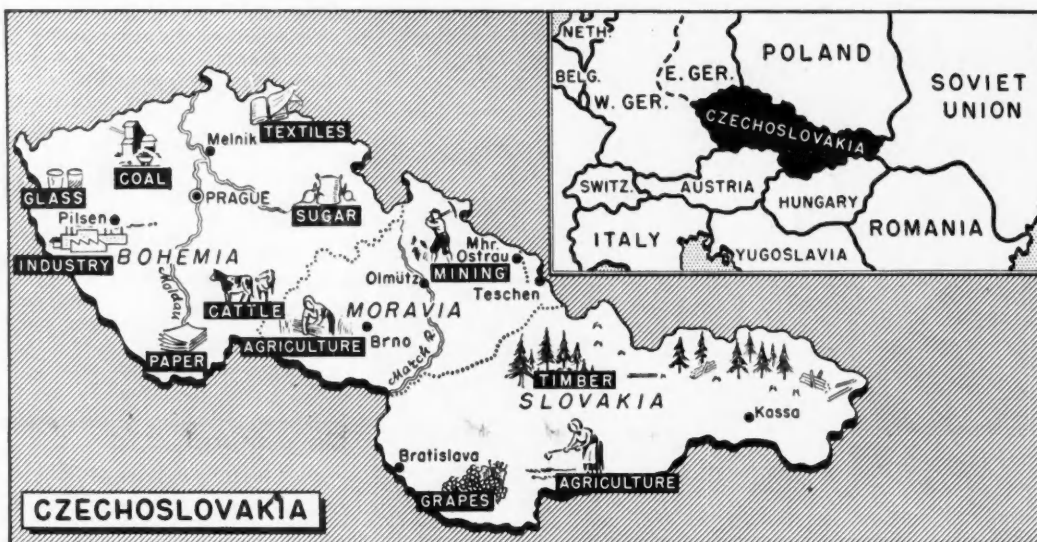
Many Czechoslovaks hoped that their nation could serve as a "bridge between east and west," staying on friendly terms with both sides and under the control of neither. At this same time, numerous people in the United States and Western Europe likewise failed to recognize the seriousness of the quarrel between Soviet and anti-Soviet countries.

Czechoslovakia tried, in 1947, to take part in the European Recovery Program. Russia, on the other hand, was determined to prevent the Czechs from making close ties with the west, so she forced them to stay out of the ERP.

By 1948 it appeared that communism was losing popularity in Czechoslovakia.



IN BUSY PRAGUE, the Czech capital. Will trouble break out here?



CZECHOSLOVAKIA can cause Soviet Russia a lot of trouble if the Czech people increase their resistance to communism

slovakia. If the free elections scheduled for that year had been allowed to take place, the communists probably would have suffered a decisive defeat. So, with Russia's backing, they seized full control of the nation by force. President Benes was allowed to remain in office for a short time as a figurehead, but he soon resigned. Jan Masaryk, anti-communist statesman and son of the national hero, Thomas Masaryk, plunged to his death—apparently committing suicide in despair over his country's downfall. The late Klement Gottwald became president in June 1948.

For the second time in 10 years, Czechoslovakia had lost her liberty. In the 1930's her fall had called attention to Nazi Germany as a growing threat against world peace. Ten years later, her fate emphasized the danger centered in Moscow.

When suffocated by Germany in the 1930's, Czechoslovakia temporarily lost her identity as a separate country. Most of her territory became part of Germany. Under the present communist rule she still calls herself a nation, though in reality she has no independence. She—along with Poland, East Germany, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, and Albania—is completely dominated by Moscow.

About equal in area to the state of New York, Czechoslovakia has a population of approximately 12½ million. She is fairly well supplied with natural resources, including coal, iron, oil, and uranium. She also has good farm land, where potatoes, sugar beets, grain, and livestock can be raised.

Manufacturing Nation

The factories of Czechoslovakia have long been famous for a wide range of products, including machinery, chemicals, textiles, glassware, and shoes. A number of years ago, the little central European country carried on a thriving trade with many foreign nations, including the United States.

Now that the communists are in control, Czechoslovakia's whole economic system is run for the benefit of the Soviet Union. Czech factories are required to produce machinery and other supplies to fill Russia's needs, and Czechoslovakia now depends largely on Russia for many of her raw materials. Incidentally, the Soviet Union pays very low prices for the goods she obtains from Czechoslovakia and other satellite countries, but charges high prices for what she sells them.

Practically all Czechoslovak business and industrial enterprises have been seized by the government. Laborers must put in long hours at their jobs, and absence from work is sometimes treated as a criminal offense.

Communist officials have gone to great lengths to regulate Czech agriculture. In many cases they have taken land away from well-to-do farmers and distributed it among the poorer ones. They have pushed large numbers of rural people onto "collective farms" similar to those found in Russia. The farmer is told how much of each crop he is supposed to raise, ordered to have his potatoes planted by a certain date, and so on. There are indications that these controls haven't worked very well, and that agricultural output is lagging.

The Usual Terror

In Czechoslovakia, as in other parts of Moscow's empire, people live in constant fear of the communist police. There is no longer any freedom of speech. Schools are rigidly controlled. Government officials have seriously interfered with the churches. Men and women suspected of being unfriendly toward Moscow are imprisoned and perhaps held for months without any sort of trial or hearing. Last summer it was estimated that 350,000 Czechoslovaks had been sent to prisons or labor camps since the communists took control in 1948.

An American reporter, William Oatis, was arrested by the Czech government in the spring of 1951 and has been in prison ever since. The communists claim that he was spying against Czechoslovakia, but our officials deny this. At the trial which occurred shortly after his arrest, he was given little or no chance to defend himself.

Communist leaders themselves are not immune from the fear that haunts the Soviet-dominated lands. High-ranking officials who lose favor with Moscow often find themselves arrested by the same secret police, and condemned in the same one-sided courts, that they helped to fasten upon their countries.

Vladimir Clementis and Rudolf Slansky were once among the top officials in the Czechoslovak communist regime—Slansky as a party chief, and Clementis as Foreign Minister. Last December they met the executioner.

Slansky was Jewish, and so were sev-

eral other prominent figures whom the Czech government condemned and executed along with him. His downfall appeared to be connected with an anti-Jewish movement that is growing in the Soviet-held areas.

A major cause of dissatisfaction in Czechoslovakia and the other satellite countries—among communists as well as non-communists—is the rigid control that Russia imposes. Czechoslovaks, hard up for all kinds of personal and family supplies, don't like the idea of working and sacrificing to produce goods just for Russia's benefit. Czech military officers surely resent having their army controlled by Soviet "advisers." Undoubtedly there are many officials in Czechoslovakia and in nearby lands who would like to see their countries continue under a communist system but without Soviet domination.

Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia felt the same way, and he managed to get out from under Moscow's influence. The Kremlin is determined to prevent other satellite governments from following the Yugoslav example. So the Soviet leaders continue to force the puppet states to weed out and destroy communist leaders whose loyalty toward Moscow is questionable. It is reported that Czechoslovakia, during a recent seven-month period, had to get rid of 3,000 such officials.

While Joseph Stalin lived, there wasn't a great deal of hope that any of Russia's present satellites could break away. Whether Georgi Malenkov can continue the strong Soviet grip on Czechoslovakia and other countries of the enslaved empire remains to be seen.

Our nation's schools must act fast if they are to get their own television stations, the government warns. So far, less than 30 have applied for the 242 channels which the government set aside for schools last year. If the other channels are not taken before June, they may go to private organizations.

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Readers Say—

In your discussion on our foreign policies, you mentioned that some of our leaders are proposing the use of atomic weapons in Korea. I don't think such a policy would be wise. If we use A-bombs in Korea, we would only cause further destruction and misery in that shattered land. This would give the Reds additional propaganda material to use against us.

BOB OKER,
De Soto, Missouri

It seems to me that we are not paying enough attention to the problems of Washington, D. C. It is a national disgrace for the people who live in our nation's capital not to have the same rights that other Americans have.

BETTY LOUISE DEAN,
Sidney, Ohio

I believe our government did the right thing when it lifted the bars on Chiang Kai-shek's forces in Formosa. Chiang should now attack Red China. Undoubtedly, many people on the Chinese mainland would welcome a chance to take up arms against their communist oppressors.

CARLOS SIERRA,
Easopus, New York

In our opinion, President Eisenhower's policy of removing the U. S. Seventh Fleet from Formosa involves big risks for our country. If Chiang does attack the Chinese Reds, and his onslaughts fail, he may ask us to help him out of a difficult spot. This could lead to our getting involved in an endless war with China.

CAROL KRAUSE, JUDITH HOLTZ,
JO ANN INGWERSEN, LOIS HILDEBRAND, AND LILA RAY,
Burlington, Kansas

Hurrah for President Eisenhower for choosing a woman to represent the United States as envoy to Italy! I am certain that Mrs. Claire Boothe Luce will do a good job in her new diplomatic post.

BEVERLY KISSINGER,
West Lawn, Pennsylvania

I disagree with reader John Ellenberger when he says we should free former Nazi military men now in jail. After all, can we free the millions of people that these men slaughtered?

MARVIN LITMAN,
Bronx, New York

I agree with those people who say that our states should take over additional responsibilities. We depend too much on our federal government these days for a great many things. It is the states, which are closer to the people than is our national government, that should handle most matters dealing with our welfare.

DON COWLES,
Imperial, Nebraska

When I read the words of the winners of the "I Speak for Democracy" contest, I got a lump in my throat. I particularly liked the article by Thomas Walsh. Someday, young people like those who wrote these articles, will speak for democracy by directing the affairs of our country. If we have enough of these youths in the nation, we have nothing to fear of the future.

MARILYN JUELL,
Mayville, North Dakota

In my opinion, any country that is blessed with such riches as the United States is, should be glad to help less fortunate people abroad. Countries on the brink of the Iron Curtain face constant threats from communism. I think it is only right for us to lend these nations a helping hand.

DONALD METZ,
Chambersburg, Pennsylvania

I think we should stop sending so much aid to foreign countries. We have been helping nations for a number of years now, and I find it hard to note any great improvement as a result of our aid. What's more, some of the countries that we have been helping often turn against us in voting on certain issues at the United Nations.

GLORIA DIRKS,
Montezuma, Kansas



THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION oversees the distribution of federal pensions to elderly people and directs government benefit programs

SERVING THE NATION

To Promote American Security

This is the tenth in a series of special features on important government offices and the men and women who run them. This week's article deals with the Federal Security Agency and its administrator, Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby.

Mrs. Hobby has crowded many careers into her lifetime. Among other things, she has done law work, published a newspaper, headed the Women's Army Corps, and now she is a top government official.

Born 48 years ago in Killeen, Texas, she became interested in her father's law work at an early age. She studied to become a lawyer at the University of Texas. Just after her 20th birthday, she took a legal job in the Texas House of Representatives.

In 1931, Oveta Culp married newspaper publisher William Hobby. It was then that she began her career as a newspaperwoman. In a short time, Mrs. Hobby took over the entire job of turning out her husband's paper, the *Houston Post*. Despite her heavy work schedule as a newspaper publisher, she found time to take an active part in a dozen or more civic and social welfare projects.



OVETA CULP HOBBY, chief of the Federal Security Agency

Early in World War II, General George Marshall, then armed forces Chief of Staff, asked Mrs. Hobby to help set up the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps. (The name of this group was later changed to Women's Army Corps, WAC.) WAC forces numbered some 100,000 strong by the time Mrs. Hobby returned to civilian life to publish the *Houston Post* in 1945.

As Federal Security head, Mrs. Hobby directs the work of some 38,000 employees whose activities affect the lives of all us. Set up in 1939, FSA holds such an important place in the government today that Congress is now studying proposals to put it on an equal footing with other agencies of cabinet rank—such as the Department of State, for instance. Mrs. Hobby already attends the President's regular cabinet meetings.

In general, FSA handles those activities of the government that deal with health, education, and the social and economic welfare of individual citizens. One of its chief offices, the Social Security Administration, oversees Old-Age and Survivors Insurance plans.

FSA's Public Health Service gives financial aid to certain hospitals, maintains special research laboratories, and directs such important study organizations as the National Cancer Institute.

The Food and Drug Administration inspects the food, drugs, and cosmetics sold to the public. It sees to it that these goods contain no harmful ingredients, and that they meet certain standards of quality.

The Office of Education collects and distributes information on our schools, colleges, and other educational institutions. Moreover, it administers the spending of federal funds for aid to schools.

Other FSA offices conduct special programs for the physically handicapped; and have a hand in managing Howard University for Negroes, Gallaudet College for the deaf, and other institutions.

Science News

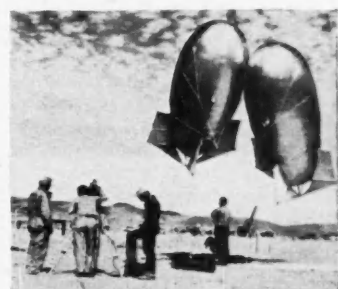
A PROCESS of preserving food that might revolutionize the canning and refrigeration industries has been tested at the University of Michigan. A scientist at the University prepared six samples of food for the test; three of these were put into a container of radioactive cobalt for 24 hours. Afterwards all six were put in a warm room and left there. The untreated food rotted and molded, but the treated samples stayed fresh. They had been preserved by atomic rays given off by the cobalt. The rays had killed the bacteria which normally spoil food. The food, however, had not been made radioactive by the process.

★ ★ ★

A deadly virus still alive after 35 years was discovered recently in a long lost test tube in a university laboratory. The virus was first discovered in 1909 by Dr. Frederick G. Novy, a bacteriologist.

Most of the 100 viruses known to science die within a few days or weeks after they are taken from the living cell in which they existed. But this virus has some unknown vigor which permits it to survive beyond all expectations.

Scientists believe the long survival of this virus without living tissue to help sustain it makes it probably one of the most potent of all known viruses. It will kill rats within a few hours after they are inoculated with one 10-billionth of a drop containing the virus. What it will do to human beings is not known now, but intensive investigations currently are under way.



WEATHER BALLOONS and the atom bomb. The helium-filled balloons are sent aloft before each atomic bomb test at the Nevada Proving Grounds to record air pressure, temperature, and humidity. The information helps the scientists to figure out paths that radioactive clouds will follow after an explosion.

American commercial fishermen may be doing their fishing with electricity soon. Experiments are being conducted to attract schools of fish into nets or traps by means of electric current.

A German scientist has been testing the reaction of herring to a positive electrical pole with some success. From a converted German mine sweeper, the scientist attached a large sheet of metal under the stern of his ship to act as a negative pole. About 60 feet from the ship he suspended another metal sheet, the positive pole, and connected the two with an insulated wire. Live herring were then released in the water between the poles. Each time the current was switched on, the herring swam directly towards the positive pole. When the current was turned off, they resumed swimming in their original directions.

Careers for Tomorrow

As a Real Estate Agent

If you have sales ability, you may want to be a real estate agent. The work covers all phases of selling and renting property, both for homes and for business purposes. The real estate agent must have some knowledge of the intricate laws governing his work, and he must be alert in understanding his clients' needs.

A college education is not required in the real estate field. A good general background is an asset, though, and a number of colleges and universities offer courses that cover the economic, legal, and psychological aspects of the real estate agent's duties. There are also courses in city planning and related subjects.

If you do not want to go to college you can learn the work through an informal apprenticeship. You might begin in a minor position in a real estate office—as a stenographer, file clerk, or office boy, for instance—and progress to more responsible posts as you gain experience.

Even with college study, you will find that you must learn the practical routines after you get your first job. The ability to evaluate a home or office building, to deal pleasantly with the most difficult of buyers, and to recognize market trends comes only with experience.

After you have acquired some knowledge of the basic principles that

govern the real estate field, you may want to specialize in a single phase of the work. You might become skilled in handling either commercial or residential property; you might become an appraiser and spend your time determining the value of property; or you might deal exclusively with the investment branches of real estate. In this latter work, you would look for capital to finance new developments and help clients with mortgage problems.

There are avenues for promotion, especially in the large real estate agencies; but the chief advancement in the field comes as an agent builds up his clientele. When an agent's name becomes known and as his reputation for honesty and competency grows, his business develops and his income increases.

Incomes of real estate agents vary greatly. Most of the work is done on commission, and individual earnings depend upon a person's ability and energy. General business conditions also affect incomes in this field. When the nation is prosperous, the real estate agent does well. During a depression, his earnings may be small. Recent estimates indicate that the majority of agents now earn between \$4,000 and \$10,000 a year.

Women as well as men have successful careers as real estate agents,



REALTORS must know their business well to make a profit building and selling houses

particularly in handling residential property. They often understand, better than men do, the problems families face in finding the right homes and in adapting them to their particular use.

If you have the necessary abilities, are willing to work hard, and are stimulated by competition, a career as a real estate agent can be challenging and rewarding. If you are not a natural salesperson and if you do not want to go into a highly competitive field, don't choose this one. You would not succeed financially and you would not enjoy the work.

Information pertaining to this career, including a list of colleges and universities offering courses in real estate, can be obtained free of charge from the Department of Education, National Association of Real Estate Boards, 22 West Monroe Street, Chicago 3, Illinois.

Study Guide

Civil Defense

1. What did the recent atomic bomb test at Yucca Flat, Nevada, indicate would happen if an atomic bomb should be dropped on an American city?
2. Why do state and local governments have the main responsibility for civil defense work?
3. List some of the bright spots in our civil defense program.
4. What are some of the more discouraging aspects of the program?
5. How do some Americans excuse their indifference to civil defense?
6. What answers do well-informed persons give to these excuses?
7. How may young people help build a strong civil defense?

Discussion

1. Do you think that people in your community are sufficiently alerted to the need for a strong civil defense? If not, how do you think they might be induced to give civil defense stronger cooperation?
2. How do you feel that you can best support your local civil defense program?

Czechoslovakia

1. Identify the following: Klement Gottwald, Eduard Benes, Rudolf Slansky.
2. When was Czechoslovakia established as a nation? What American President aided her founders?
3. What disaster befell Czechoslovakia in the 1930's?
4. Describe the course that the Czechoslovak government tried to follow just after World War II.
5. When was the nation placed under complete Soviet control?
6. What kind of economic relationship exists between Russia and Czechoslovakia?
7. Explain why communist leaders themselves cannot be immune from the fear that haunts Czechoslovak and other satellite peoples.

Discussion

1. In your opinion, is there anything that our country can and should do to help the Czechs get out from under Moscow's control? Explain your position.
2. How much effect, if any, do you think the deaths of Stalin and Gottwald will have upon Czechoslovakia? Explain.

Miscellaneous

1. Why is the outcome of Japan's forthcoming elections in doubt?
2. Why does research chemist Charles Allen Thomas believe we will not run out of natural resources in the foreseeable future?
3. What is the Allied attitude toward Soviet dictator Malenkov's "peace" pronouncements?
4. Describe the big issues involved in South Africa's forthcoming elections.
5. How has democracy fared in its global struggle against tyranny during the last 20 years, according to an Associated Press survey?
6. Name some leading foreign officials who have already visited President Eisenhower.
7. What are the chief duties of the government agency headed by Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby?

Pronunciations

- Benes—bē'nēsh
 Bundestag—bōn'dēs-tahg
 Georges Bidault—zhaw'rzh bē-dō'
 Georgi Malenkov—gē-aw'r'gi mah-lēn'-kōf
 Ichiro Hatoyama—ī-chē-rō hah-tō'yah'-mah'
 Jean Letourneau—zhahn luh-tōr'nō
 Klement Gottwald—klēm'mēt gaw't'-vahlit
 Konrad Adenauer—cōn'e-raht ah'duh-now-er
 Mamoru Shigemitsu—mah-mō'rōō shē-gē'mē-tsoō
 Masaryk—mah'sah-rik
 René Mayer—rē-nā' mah'yā
 Shigeru Yoshida—shē-gērōō yō-she'-dah'
 Slansky—slān'ski
 Vladimir Clementis—vlahd'uh-mīr kluh-mēntis

Historical Backgrounds - - Our Inventors

THE patent business is booming today, just as it has been throughout much of our history. Nearly 47,000 patents on inventions were granted in 1952, and patents have been issued at the rate of about 40,000 a year for the past 50 years.

There are some differences, though, between the invention business now and a half century ago. While the total number of inventions now and in years past is about the same, fewer inventions are being patented per 1,000 of population than used to be the case. Also, there seem to be fewer persons working in their own shops on new ideas, and more working in laboratories and plants set up by big manufacturers.

Why is this so? For one thing, an inventor working alone is handicapped. It's hard for him to know what already has been made in his field. He might spend months on some new gadget, and then find out that someone else already has made a similar one. Too, setting up a shop with modern tools costs a lot more than it formerly did, and the cost keeps many from working on their ideas alone.

An increasingly common practice today is for inventors to go to work in big laboratories such as those maintained, for example, by the Ford Motor Company. In such a laboratory, the inventor can quickly check files on what has been made in the past. Then, with the latest tools at his disposal, he can go to work on his idea. In many cases, he may get help by comparing his plans with colleagues in the laboratory.

Although there are fewer inventions each year on the basis of population,

turning out new machines and gadgets of all kinds is still a big business. The young clerk in the United States Patent Office was wrong when he quit his job in 1825. He believed the Patent Office would close for lack of business. So, being ambitious, he set out to look for another career with a "more promising future."

Only 30,000 patents had been issued by 1825. But many of the most important inventions were yet to come, including Cyrus McCormick's reaper, Elias Howe's sewing machine, Alexander Bell's telephone, Thomas Edison's phonograph, motion picture machines, automobile engines, the airplane, radio, and television. The total number of patents granted in this country probably will pass the 3 million mark in the next 10 years. The total is already more than 2½ million.



AN EARLY Thomas A. Edison invention. It's called a Dynamic Electric Machine, and was patented September 9, 1879.

The Patent Office started work 163 years ago next month, on April 10, 1790. Only three patents were granted that first year. Records of the first 3 patents have been lost, but it is known that No. 1 went to a Vermont man for his method of "making pot and pearl ashes," or potash.

The first patent probably was signed by George Washington, as President, and by Thomas Jefferson, as Secretary of State—for it was customary in our early history for patents to bear the signature of these high officials.

The purpose of a patent is to protect an inventor. The patent holder has the exclusive right to make and sell his invention for 17 years, and no one can copy his device during that period. The patent owner loses his rights at the end of 17 years. From then on, anyone may make a product without having to make any payment to the inventor. A patent may be extended by Congress but this is rarely done.

Getting a patent is a lengthy process now. First, the inventor (or his lawyer) goes to the Patent Office's huge "search room." There he looks over the files of patents of the past. If his idea seems to be really original, the inventor asks for a patent. He must present complete technical data on his contrivance and pay an application fee. The Patent Office gives him a serial number and its experts go over the request, comparing the plans with those of previous patents.

Often there are thousands of applications pending, some dating back two to five years. The inventor must wait his turn.